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TRANSMITTAL LETTER

Dear Sir:

Transmitted herewith for filing is the Continuation Patent Application of:

Inventor: AMAD (NMN) TAYEBI
For: A Postable Sticker

This application is a continuation of Copending Patent Application,
Serial No. 08/828878, filed on March 31, 1997, (Please see attached
copy of PTO Mail Room Receipt)

Enclosed are:

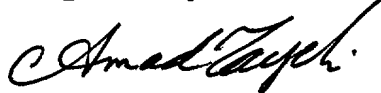
- | | |
|--|--------------------------|
| 3 Sheets of informal drawings | 9 Pages of Specification |
| 1 Page of Abstract | 3 Pages of Claims |
| X Other - Declaration | |
| X Other - Application For Status As Small Entity (Independent Inventor) | |
| X Other - Copy of PTO Mail Room Receipt for Copending Patent Application,
Serial No. 08/828878, filed on March 31, 1997 | |

Claims as Filed

Total Claims: 12
Independent Claims: 3

Enclosed herewith is a personal check in the amount of \$380.00 to cover the
fees.

Respectfully submitted



Amad Tayebi

5 Sequoia Rd. Westford, MA 01886
Dated: February 19, 1999



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WASHINGTON, D.C. 20231

Application for Status as Small Entity (Independent Inventor)

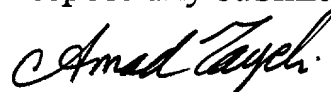
Dear Sir:

In accordance with the provisions of Rules of Practice, Sect. 1.27, this paper contains the required statement for application for status as a Small Entity (Independent Inventor) for me with regards to the below identified Continuation Patent Application filed concurrent herewith.

Inventor: AMAD (NMN) TAYEBI
For: A Postable Sticker

1. This statement of status as a Small Entity (Independent Inventor) is being filed concurrent with: (a) the filing of the above identified Application for Patent and (b) the payment of fees for the above identified Application for Patent.
2. I, Amad Tayebi, as the sole inventor, aver that I qualify as an independent inventor in accordance with Sect. 1.9(c) of the Rules of Practice, and am under no obligation under contract or law to assign, grant, convey, or license, any rights in the invention disclosed and claimed in the above identified application for patent to: (a) any person who could not likewise be classified as an independent inventor if that person had made the invention, or to (b) any concern which could not qualify as a small business concern or a nonprofit organization as defined in 13 CFR 121.3-18.

Respectfully submitted,



Amad (NMN) Tayebi
Inventor
Date: February 19, 1999

A Postable Sticker

This application is a continuation of Copending Patent Application, Serial No. 08/828878, filed on March 31, 1997.

Field of the Invention

The present invention is in the field of adhesive-coated stickers. In particular, it relates to stickers coated with non-destructive adhesive coating wherein the sticker may be peeled off without being destroyed and without destroying the surface on which it is posted.

Summary of the Invention.

In accordance with the present invention, a novel temporary posting sticker comprises a first area coated with a non-destructive adhesive coating and a second area substantially free from such non-destructive adhesive coating and a weakened tear line that substantially separates the first area from the second area. Prior to tearing the sticker along the weakened tear line, the sticker is similar in form and function to the posting stickers of the prior art. However, after tearing the sticker along the weakened tear line, the second area of the sticker, which may contain written or printed information, may be saved as an ordinary adhesive-free memo note thereby overcoming the nuisance inconvenient sticking to other surfaces exhibited by prior art temporary posting stickers.

1 Alternatively, the novel sticker of the present invention comprises a
2 weakened fold line (score line) such that when the sticker is folded
3 along the score line the adhesive coating on the first area is
4 substantially covered and adheres to the back side of the posting
5 sticker. Thus, the second area of the sticker may be saved without
6 exhibiting any inconvenient sticking to other surfaces.

8 Background of the Invention

10 Adhesive-coated stickers are flexible material sheets which are coated,
11 on one side, with an adhesive layer which is subsequently covered by a
12 non-stick material sheet. In order to apply the sticker to a surface, the
13 non-stick material sheet is peeled off the coated surface and the coated
14 surface is then pressed against the surface over which the sticker is to
15 be posted. The flexible material of the sticker may be made of paper,
16 fibrous sheet, plastic film (which may be transparent, translucent or
17 opaque), metal foil or other materials known in the art. The non-stick
18 material sheet may be made of silicone-coated, wax-coated, Teflon-
19 coated or some other non-stick material-coated paper, fibrous sheet,
20 plastic film, metal foil or other non-stick materials commonly known in
21 the art as release-coated materials or paper sheets.

23 The adhesive coating applied on the sticker surface may be chosen from
24 a variety of adhesives, known in the art. When the adhesive is of high
25 strength or a permanent nature, peeling the sticker off the surface on
26 which it is applied usually results in some damage to the sticker, the
27 surface on which it is applied or, in some cases, both. On the other hand,

when the adhesive coating is of a weak, non-destructive or temporary adhesion nature, as the sticker is peeled off, the adhesive remains on the sticker and the application surface suffers no damage. When the surface of such sticker is partially coated, usually in some area adjacent to its edge, and a plurality of stickers are stacked in a writing or memo pad form, as it is well known in the art, the stickers are used for temporarily referencing a sheet or a page in a book or for temporarily posting a note. In accordance with the present invention, such partially-coated sticker is referred to as a postable sticker.

10

An inconvenience encountered in use of postable stickers of the prior art is that when not posted onto a surface, the exposed adhesive-coated area sticks to other surfaces it is brought in contact with. This poses an inconvenience when a user elects to save the sticker in order to save the information written or printed on it. A user may take one of three approaches to overcome such inconvenience when he or she desires to save the information on the sticker, namely; (1) fold the sticker in order to cover the adhesive layer, (2) cut or tear the sticker along a line that separates the coated area from the uncoated area. This is usually done by using scissors or by folding and pressing the sticker along the folding line then tearing it along such line, or (3) cover the adhesive-coated area with a strip of paper.

23

The present invention makes it possible to overcome such inconvenience by introducing a weakened tear line in the sticker along a path that substantially separates the coated area from the uncoated area. Therefore, when a user elects to save the information on the

1 postable sticker, without encountering the inconvenience of sticker
 2 adhesion to other surfaces, he or she may tear the sticker along the
 3 weakened tear line and retain the adhesive coating-free portion of the
 4 sticker.

5

6 Alternatively, the present invention solves the same problem, of
 7 postable sticker inconvenient adhesion to other surfaces, by introducing
 8 a weakened fold line (score line) in the sticker such that when the
 9 sticker is folded along the weakened fold line (score line) and pressed,
 10 the adhesive coating on the first area is substantially covered and
 11 adheres to the back side of the postable sticker. Thus, the second area of
 12 the sticker may be saved without exhibiting any inconvenient sticking
 13 to other surfaces.

14

15 In addition to overcoming the problems of inconvenient adhesion of
 16 stickers of the prior art, the present invention makes it possible to
 17 expand the utility of the stickers of the prior art by introducing
 18 additional weakened tear lines and/or score lines that divide the
 19 postable sticker into a plurality of sections for selective partial removal
 20 of sections of the sticker along predetermined weakened tear lines or
 21 score lines.

22

23 Brief Description of the Drawing

24

25 Figure 1 shows a front view of a postable sticker of the prior art.

26 Figure 2 shows an isometric view of a postable sticker pad of the prior
 27 art.

1 Figures (3) and (3-A) show a weakened tear line type postable sticker
2 of the present invention.

3 Figures (4), (4-A) and (4-B) show a score line type postable sticker of
4 the present invention.

5 Figures (5), (5-A), (5-B), (5-C) and (5-D) show a variety of postable
6 stickers of the present invention with partially adhesive-coated first
7 area, pre-punched holes and decoratively shaped weakened tear lines
8 and score lines.

9 Figures (6) and (6-A) show postable stickers of the present invention
10 with a plurality of weakened tear lines.

11 Figure (7) shows a postable sticker of the present invention with pre-
12 punched holes.

13 Figure (8) shows a postable sticker of the present invention in the form
14 of a separation tab.

15

16 Detailed Description of the Invention

17

18 Figure (1) shows a postable sticker 1 of the prior art which comprises a
19 first area 3 coated with a temporary adhesion coating and a second area
20 free from any adhesive coating. In some embodiments of prior art
21 postable sticker 1, second area 2 is pre-printed (ruled) with lines 4,
22 decorative designs 5 or other pre-printed information or decorative
23 effects. As shown in Figure (2), a plurality of postable sticker 1 of the
24 prior art is assembled in a multi-layer stack or pad form 6.

25

26 Figures (3) and (3-A) show an embodiment of postable sticker 7 in
27 accordance with the present invention. As shown therein, postable

1 sticker 7 comprises a first area 8, a second area 9 and a weakened tear
 2 line 10. Tear line 10 substantially separates first area 8 from second
 3 area 9. Similar to prior art, first area 8 is coated with a temporary
 4 adhesion coating which permits removal of postable sticker 7 from a
 5 stack of postable stickers or from a surface on which postable sticker 7
 6 is posted without damage to sticker 7 or to the surface on which it is
 7 posted. Such temporary adhesion coating is known in the art, for
 8 example, pressure sensitive adhesion coating. Second area 9 is
 9 substantially free from such temporary adhesive coating. Weakened
 10 tear line 10 provides a low tear and/or tensile strength line that directs
 11 an initial tear, started, as shown in Figure (3-A) at the edge of postable
 12 sticker 7, to propagate along its path by offering lower resistance to tear
 13 against tear force T. In likewise manner, weakened tear line 10 localizes
 14 the tensile failure line to occur along its path when postable sticker 7 is
 15 subjected to tensile force F.

16
 17 Alternatively, in accordance with another embodiment of the present
 18 invention, Figure (4) shows postable sticker 11 comprising first area 8,
 19 second area 9, a line 13 defined by the boundary of first area 8 and a
 20 weakened fold line (score line) 12. Weakened fold line (score line) 12
 21 directs a fold of postable sticker 11, generated around an axis
 22 substantially parallel to line 13, to occur on line 12, as shown in Figure
 23 (4-A). In so doing, the postable sticker of the present invention may be
 24 folded and pressed together along a consistently predictable fold line
 25 and thereby covering the adhesive coating of first area 8 and
 26 overcoming the inconvenient adhesion problem of the prior art. A

1 plurality of score line 12 may be located within first area 8 or within
2 second area 9, as shown in Figure (4-B).

3

4 Figures (5) and (5-A) show another embodiment of the present
5 invention wherein first area 8 is partially coated with a discontinuous
6 temporary adhesive coating in areas 14 and 16 respectively. As such, in
7 accordance with the present invention, first area 8 may comprise
8 temporary adhesion coated areas and areas substantially free from any
9 adhesive coating while still being able to exhibit a temporary adhesion
10 nature when pressed onto a surface.

11

12 In accordance with the present invention, weakened tear line 10 and
13 score line 12 may be of a continuous or discontinuous nature, only
14 weakened, only scored, partially scored, partially weakened or having a
15 combination of coinciding or separate score lines, weakened tear lines,
16 pre-slit (cut) lines and perforated or micro-perforated lines. Line 10
17 may also be of a straight line form or a decorative or other functional
18 form, for example, as shown in Figures (3), (5), (5-B) and (5-C). Also,
19 first area 8 may be located adjacent to, outside of, surrounding or
20 within second area 9 as shown in Figures (3), (5-C) and (5-B). Also, first
21 area 8 may be of a rectangular shape, for example as shown in Figure
22 (3) or of a circular or any other decorative or functional shape, for
23 example, as shown in Figures (5-B) and (5-C). Additionally, a plurality
24 of first area 8 and second area 9, of same or different sizes and/or
25 shapes, may be present in one postable sticker of the present invention,
26 for example as shown in Figure (5-D).

27

1 In accordance with the present invention, postable sticker 7 may also
 2 comprise at least one hole or cut out 15, as shown in Figures (5), (7) and
 3 (8). Hole or cut out 15 may be of any decorative or functional shape.
 4 Also, postable sticker 7 may include at least one notched section 20 for
 5 ease of initiating tear or fold along lines 10 or 12, as shown in Figures
 6 (3), (3-A), (4) and (4-A).

7

8 The present invention also expands the utility of prior art postable
 9 stickers. As shown in Figures (5-D) and (6), postable sticker 7 comprises
 10 additional weakened tear lines such as 10, 17 and 19. In so being, a
 11 user may be able to selectively remove (tear out) and save or discard
 12 certain segment(s) of second area 9, as shown in Figure (6-A), while
 13 maintaining the integrity of border zone joining first area 8 and second
 14 area 9. In so doing, the end user can have more use from a single
 15 postable sticker of the present invention than is presently possible from
 16 prior art stickers. Additionally, by incorporating holes in postable
 17 sticker 7, as shown in Figure (7), the adhesive-free area of postable
 18 sticker may also be saved in a 3-ring binder without experiencing the
 19 inconvenient adhesion of prior art stickers. Dimensions a and b of such
 20 adhesive-free area may be equal to those of standard, popular or
 21 special size paper sheets.

22

23 As shown in Figures (8) and (8-A), other possible uses of the postable
 24 sticker of the present invention include creating tab separators, for
 25 example for 3-ring binders or other applications, by providing a score
 26 line 12 which separates first area 8 from second area 9. By folding tab
 27 21 along line 12 one obtains a tab separator, index card or the like

1 which exhibits no inconvenient adhesion to other surfaces. In an
2 embodiment of such separation tab, postable sticker 7 is preferably
3 made of transparent film or alternatively, first area 8 may be made of
4 transparent material.

5

6 While what have been described in this section are some embodiments
7 of the present invention, it is possible to use other sheet materials of
8 the prior art or any other sheet materials, conceive or design many
9 additional decorative or functional applications, shapes or stacks of the
10 postable sticker of the present invention without departing from the
11 spirit and scope of the invention.

12

1 What is claimed is:

2

3 1- A postable sticker comprising a flexible material sheet having at
4 least one first area and at least one second area, said first area being at
5 least partially coated with a non-destructive peelable adhesive coating
6 and said second area being substantially free from said non-destructive
7 peelable adhesive, wherein the improvement comprises;
8 at least one weakened tear line, said weakened tear line being of such a
9 shape and location that it substantially separates said at least one first
10 area from said at least one second area.

11

12 2- A postable sticker comprising a flexible material sheet having at
13 least one first area and at least one second area, said first area being at
14 least partially coated with a non-destructive peelable adhesive coating
15 and said second area being substantially free from said non-destructive
16 peelable adhesive, wherein the improvement comprises;
17 at least one score line, said score line being located in said postable
18 sticker such that when said postable sticker is folded along said score
19 line and pressed together, said adhesive coating of said first area is
20 substantially covered and adheres to the back side of said postable
21 sticker.

22

23 3- The postable sticker of claim 1 further comprising at least one
24 notched section.

25

26 4- The postable sticker of claim 2 further comprising at least one
27 notched section.

1

2 5- The postable sticker of claim 1 wherein said second area having pre-
3 printed (ruled) lines.

4

5 6- The postable sticker of claim 2 wherein said second area having pre-
6 printed (ruled) lines.

7

8 7- The postable sticker of claim 1 wherein said flexible material sheet
9 being a plastic film.

10

11 8- The postable sticker of claim 2 wherein said flexible material sheet
12 being a plastic film.

13

14 9- The postable sticker of claim 7 wherein said plastic film being
15 transparent.

16

17 10- The postable sticker of claim 8 wherein said plastic film being
18 transparent.

19

20 11- The postable sticker of claim 1 wherein said weakened tear line
21 being of other than a straight line form.

22

23 12- A postable sticker comprising a flexible material sheet having at
24 least one first area, at least one second area and at least one line
25 defined by the boundary of said first area, said first area being at least
26 partially coated with a non-destructive peelable adhesive coating and

1 said second area being substantially free from said non-destructive
2 peelable adhesive, wherein the improvement comprises;
3 at least one notched section, for ease of initiating a fold along a line
4 substantially parallel to or coinciding with said at least one line.

5

6

7

Abstract

A novel temporary posting sticker comprises a first area coated with a non-destructive adhesive coating and a second area substantially free from such non-destructive adhesive coating and a weakened tear line that substantially separates the first area from the second area. By tearing the sticker along the weakened tear line, the second area of the sticker, which may contain written or printed information, may be saved as an ordinary adhesive-free memo note thereby overcoming the nuisance inconvenient sticking to other surfaces exhibited by prior art temporary posting stickers. Alternatively, the novel sticker comprises a weakened fold line (score line) such that when the sticker is folded along the score line the adhesive coating on the first area is substantially covered and adheres to the back side of the posting sticker. Thus, the second area of the sticker may be saved without exhibiting any inconvenient sticking to other surfaces.

Doc.ID. Postable Sticker2 (Pat.Appl.)

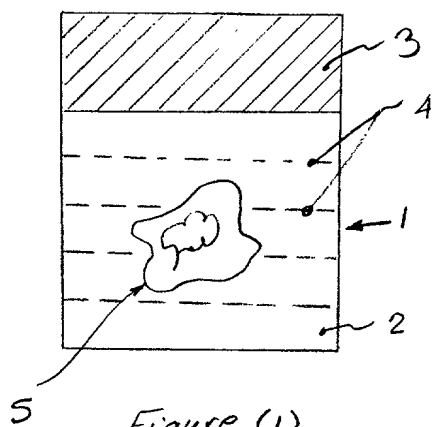


Figure (1)
(Prior Art)

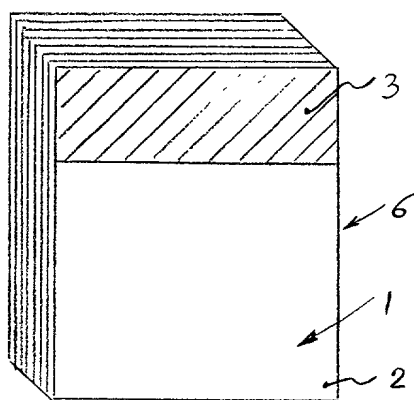


Figure (2)
(Prior Art)

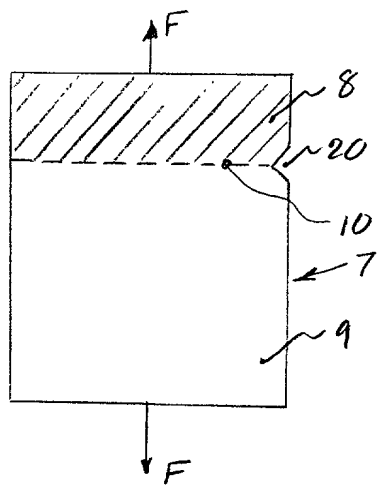


Figure (3)

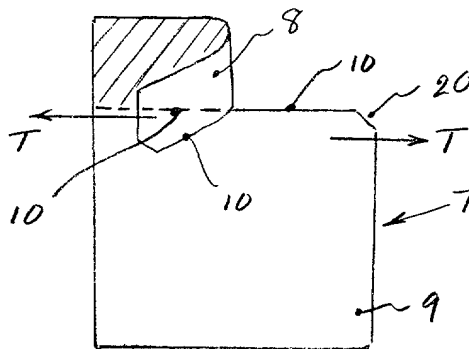


Figure (3-A)

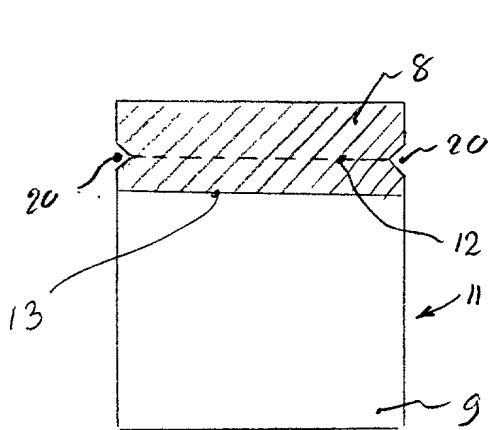


Figure (4)

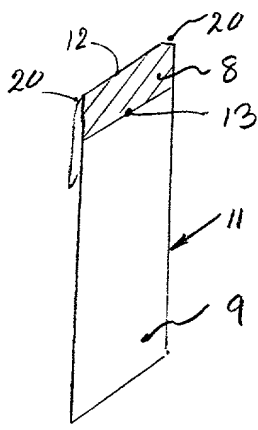


Figure (4-A)

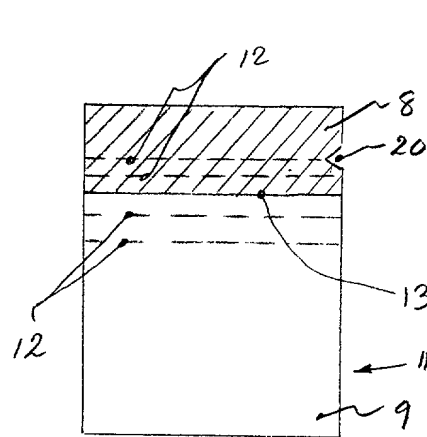


Figure (4-B)

Sheet 2 of 3

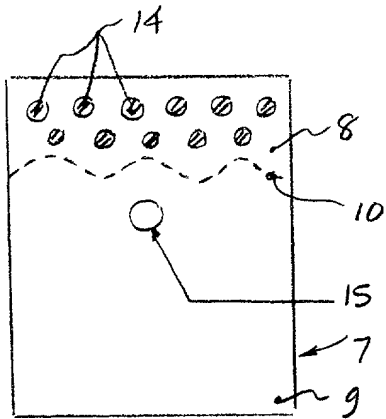


Figure (5)

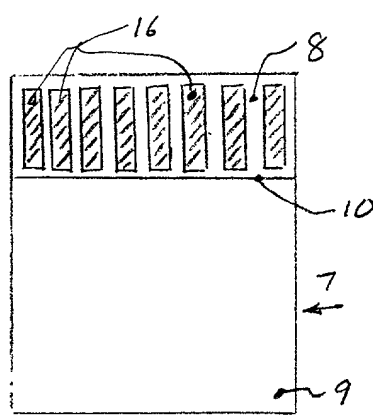


Figure (5-A)

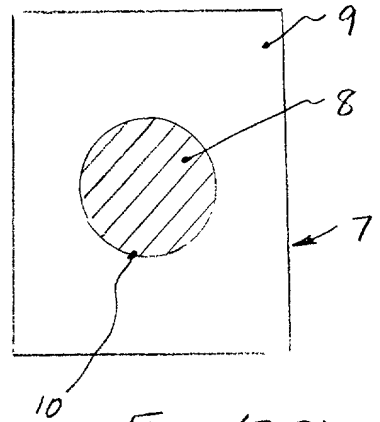


Figure (5-B)

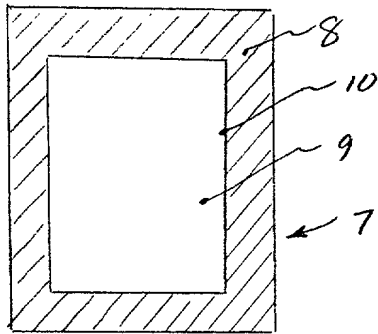


Figure (5-C)

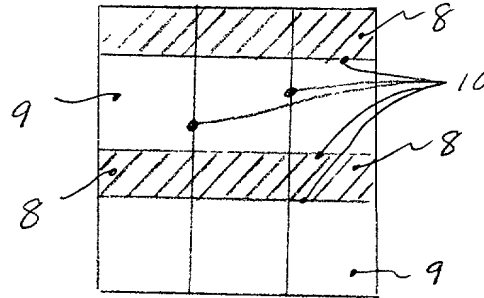


Figure (5-D)

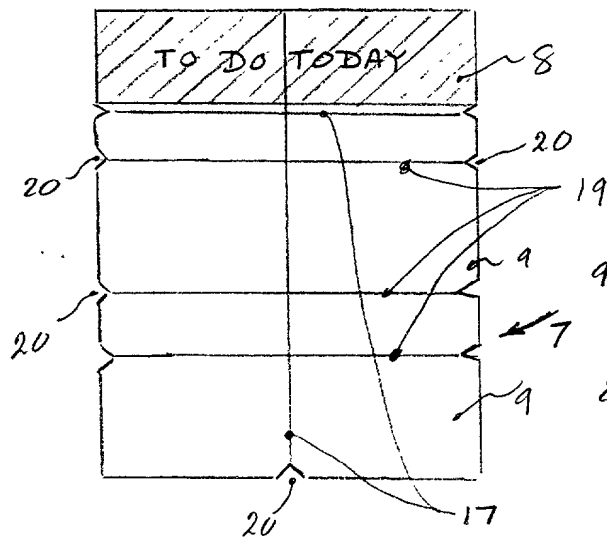


Figure (6)

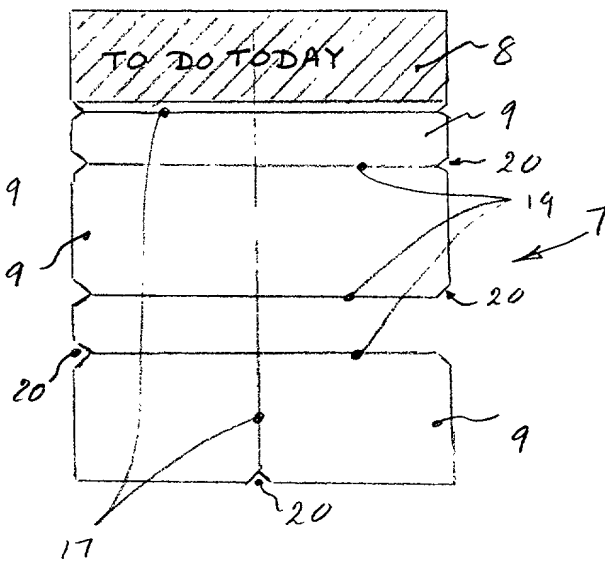


Figure (6-A)

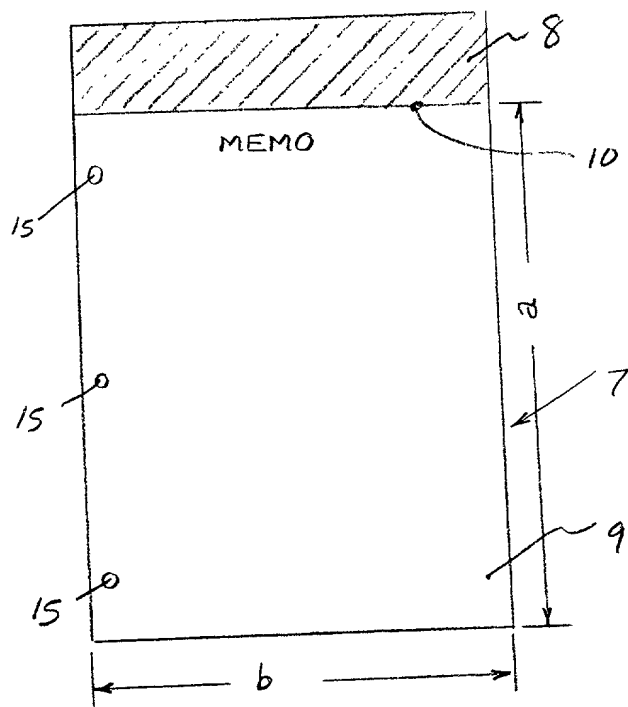


Figure (7)

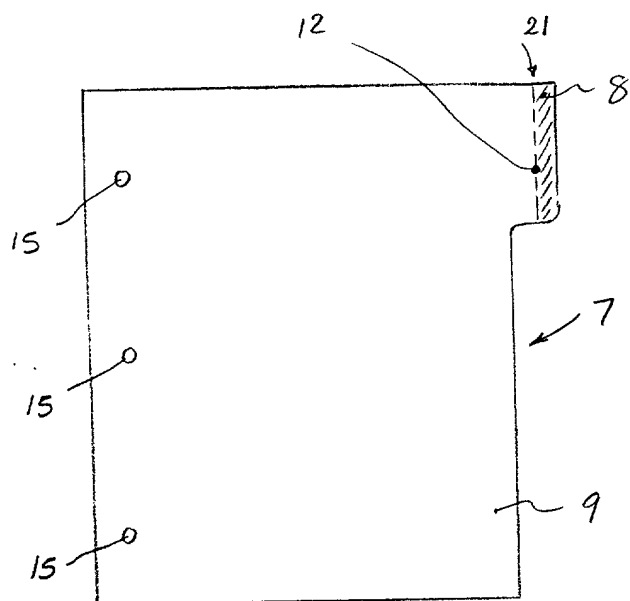


Figure (8)

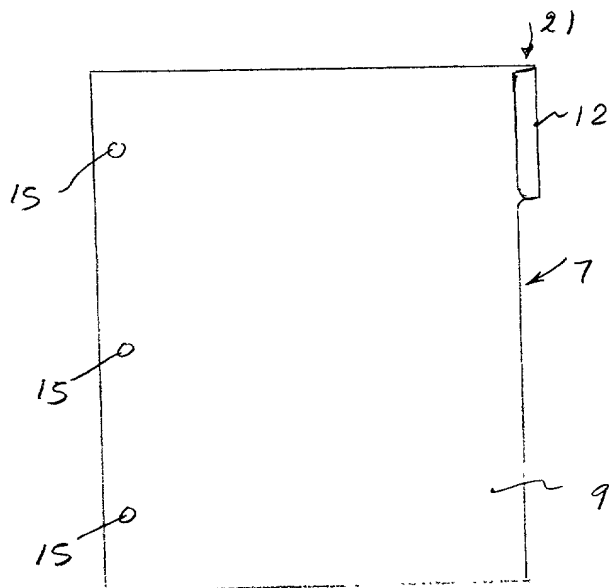


Figure (8-A)

DECLARATION

As a below named inventor, I hereby declare that:

My residence, post office address and citizenship are as stated below next to my name.

I believe that I am the original, first and sole inventor of the subject matter which is claimed and for which a patent is sought on the invention entitled A Postable Sticker the specification of which is attached hereto.

I hereby state that I have reviewed and understand the contents of the above-identified specification, including the claims.

I acknowledge the duty to disclose information which is material to the examination of this application in accordance with Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations, Section 1.56(a).

I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States code and that such willful false statements may jeopardize validity of the application or any patent issued thereon.

Inventor's Signature: 

Full name of sole inventor: AMAD TAYEBI

Date: February 19, 1999

Residence: 5 Sequoia Road, Westford, MA 01886

Citizenship: United States

Post Office Address: 5 Sequoia Road, Westford, MA 01886